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Copy 1 of 6

19 February 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR : Acting Deputy Director (Plans) [redacted]
THROUGH : Acting Chief, Development Projects Division, DD/P
SUBJECT : Proposed TALENT Coverage of Tibet

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for approval in paragraph 6.

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2. [redacted] has submitted, in the attachment, a request for coverage of Tibetan highways. Discussions with [redacted] and [redacted] of Ops/DPD, shows that the operational planning which [redacted] must undertake for the future is dependent on achievement, in the near future, of the coverage of three major highways listed below in order of importance, items b. and c. being of about the same importance:

- a. North-South Highway - Golmo to Lhasa
- b. East-West Highway - Lhasa to Chengtu
- c. Langchau to Yushu Road

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3. At a later date, but prior to 15 August 1960, [redacted] would require (as things stand now) coverage also of the following two highways:

- a. Nagchuka to Rudog Road
- b. Southern Highway - Lhasa to Gartok

4. The Chairman, ARC has brought this proposal to the attention of the ARC in order that the Members may be alerted to provide bonus targets of interest to their Agencies which might be collectible simultaneously in the vicinity of the highways listed in paragraphs 2. and 3. above. These will be submitted to Ops/DPD for inclusion in Mission planning by close of business 23 February.

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5. The ARC requested that their view be reported that their intelligence requirements for Tibet were much lower than for Communist China which, of course, is considerably lower than for the USSR, the main objective, and that at this time their requirements would not justify the risk involved in TALENT coverage as proposed.

RECOMMENDATION

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6. That, based on the understanding that the [] objectives for reconnaissance as outlined in paragraphs 2. and 3. above are essential to carry out a major operational responsibility of the Agency, coverage of Tibetan highways by TALENT, as indicated, along with such other Agencies' requirements as feasible, be approved.

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JAMES Q. REBER
Chairman

Ad Hoc Requirements Committee

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Att: 11 Feb 1960 Memo for Chairman, ARC
from [] []

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Recommendation in paragraph 6.
APPROVED

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[]
~~Acting~~ Deputy Director (Plans)

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